

Bureau of Land Management  
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Corvallis, Or. 97330  
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I attended one of your public meetings on Western Oregon Plan Revisions, but it did not adequately inform me of the devastation you are planning for western forests. This I had to discover elsewhere.

You prefer positive, detailed comments --but few of your plans are positive. Here are realistic comments based on some of the changes you are advancing:

- You choose the most damaging alternative, 2, for managing some 2.5 million acres of PUBLIC land, one that would clearcut and convert a million acres of ancient forest to industrial forests, including 140,000 acres in western Oregon in the first decade.
- You would eliminate key provisions of the current Northwest Forest Plan, such as Survey and manage species, which would entail some work but would protect species.
- Under the damaging alternative you prefer, riparian buffer zones would be reduced, increasing erosion and harming fish habitat.
- Half of western Oregon lands would be placed in "Timber Management Areas," to be clearcut at age 80. As just one example, several miles around Alsea Falls, as a TMA, could face a 700 percent increase in logging of trees more than 200 years old. Since 90 to 95 percent of old growth in the Northwest already has fallen victim to logging, this clearcutting provision is nothing but greed and forest decimation --certainly not "management."
- You also support 1,000 miles of new roads with their erosion and intrusion potentials; 100,000 acres of off-highway vehicles to further damage the terrain; reduced clean water, as result of erosion, roads and other factors.

Your choices reflect administrators who do not value the environment and are seeking primarily to enhance timber receipts, a disastrous choice for an agency and a nation in the dangerously vulnerable 21st century.

Sincerely,  
*Jeanne Riha*  
Jeanne Riha